Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended): In a wireless communication system including a radio network controller (RNC), a core network (CN) and at least one wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU), a method of controlling the data bit rate of a radio link (RL) established between the RNC and the WTRU to maintain the quality of the RL, the method comprising:

(a) the RNC establishing a guaranteed data bit rate, a maximum data bit rate and a current data bit rate associated with the RL;

(b) the RNC sensing an event indicating a quality deficiency ~~which indicates that the quality~~ of the RL ~~has substantially deteriorated~~;

(c) the RNC determining the identity of a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH) associated with the RL;

(d) ~~(c)~~ the RNC determining a target data bit rate needed to correct the RL quality deficiency ~~based on the sensed event~~;

(e) ~~(d)~~ if the target data bit rate is less than the guaranteed data bit rate, the RNC renegotiating a new guaranteed data bit rate with the CN; and

(f) ~~(e)~~ if the target data bit rate is greater than or equal to the guaranteed data bit rate, the RNC reducing the current data bit rate to the target data bit rate by removing at least one transport format combination (TFC) from a transport format combination set (TFCS) associated with the specific CCTrCH.

2. (currently amended): The method of claim 1 further comprising:

(g) initiating a waiting period; and

(h) ~~(f)~~ if the ~~CN~~ RNC fails to ~~approve the lower~~ renegotiate the new guaranteed data bit rate before the waiting period expires ~~within a predetermined period of time~~, the RNC initiating a handover procedure for the RL.

3. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating that the transmission power of the WTRU is at a maximum level.

4. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating a block error rate (BLER) associated with the WTRU is too high for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 5 (canceled)

6. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the RL is an uplink.

7. (original): The method of claim 1 wherein the RL is a downlink.

8. (currently amended): A wireless communication system for controlling the data bit rate of a radio link (RL) to maintain the quality of the RL, the ~~method~~ system comprising:

(a) a core network (CN);

(b) a radio network controller (RNC) in communication with the CN; and

(c) at least one wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) in communication with the RNC via the RL, wherein:

(i) the RNC is configured to establish ~~establishes~~ a guaranteed data bit rate, a maximum data bit rate and a current data bit rate associated with the RL;

(ii) the RNC is configured to sense ~~senses~~ an event indicating a quality deficiency ~~which indicates that the quality~~ of the RL ~~has substantially deteriorated~~;

(iii) the RNC is configured to determine the identity of a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH) associated with the RL;

(iv) ~~(iii)~~ the RNC is configured to determine ~~determines~~ a target data bit rate needed to correct the RL quality deficiency ~~based on the sensed event~~;

(v) ~~(iv)~~ the RNC is configured to renegotiate ~~renegotiates~~ a new guaranteed data bit rate with the CN if the target data bit rate is less than the guaranteed data bit rate; and

(vi) ~~(v)~~ the RNC is configured to reduce ~~reduces~~ the current data bit rate to the target data bit rate by removing at least one transport format combination (TFC) from a transport format combination set (TFCS) associated with the specific CCTrCH if the target data bit rate is greater than or equal to the guaranteed data bit rate.

9. (currently amended): The system of claim 8 wherein the RNC initiates a handover procedure for the RL if the ~~CN~~ RNC fails to ~~approve the lower~~ renegotiate the new guaranteed data bit rate within a predetermined period of time.

10. (original): The system of claim 8 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating the transmission power of the WTRU is at a maximum level.

11. (original): The system of claim 8 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating a block error rate (BLER) associated with the WTRU is too high for a predetermined period of time.

Claim 12 (canceled)

13. (original): The system of claim 8 wherein the RL is an uplink.

14. (original): The system of claim 8 wherein the RL is a downlink.

15. (currently amended): In a wireless communication system including a radio network controller (RNC), a core network (CN) and at least one wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU), a method of controlling the current data bit rate of a radio link (RL) established between the RNC and the WTRU to recover from implementing a corrective action to maintain the quality of the RL by reducing the current data bit rate from a maximum data bit rate to a reduced data bit rate, the method comprising:

(a) the RNC determining that an event which indicates that the quality of the RL has substantially deteriorated does not occur during a predetermined time period;

(b) the RNC determining the identity of a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH), associated with the RL, to be reconfigured;

(c) if the current data bit rate is not equal to the maximum data bit rate, the RNC increasing the current data bit rate to a target data bit rate ~~; and (d) the RNC reconfiguring the specific CCTrCH~~ by adding at least one ~~or more~~ transport format combinations (TFC) to a transport format combination set (TFCS) associated with the specific CCTrCH; and

(d) if the target data bit rate is greater than the maximum data bit rate, the RNC renegotiating a new maximum data bit rate with the CN.

Claim 16 (canceled)

17. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating the transmission power of the WTRU is at a maximum level.

18. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating a block error rate (BLER) associated with the WTRU is too high for a predetermined period of time.

19. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the RL is an uplink.

20. (original): The method of claim 15 wherein the RL is a downlink.

21. (new): A radio network controller (RNC) comprising:

(a) means for establishing a guaranteed data bit rate, a maximum data bit rate and a current data bit rate associated with a radio link (RL);

(b) means for sensing an event indicating a quality deficiency of the RL;

(c) means for determining the identity of a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH) associated with the RL;

(d) means for determining a target data bit rate needed to correct the RL quality deficiency;

(e) means for renegotiating a new guaranteed data bit rate if the target data bit rate is less than the guaranteed data bit rate; and

(f) means for reducing the current data bit rate to the target data bit rate by removing at least one transport format combination (TFC) from a transport format combination set (TFCS) associated with the specific CCTrCH if the target data bit rate is greater than or equal to the guaranteed data bit rate.

22. (new): The RNC of claim 21 wherein the RNC further comprises means for initiating a handover procedure for the RL if the RNC fails to renegotiate the new guaranteed data bit rate within a predetermined period of time.

23. (new): The RNC of claim 21 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating the transmission power of a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) is at a maximum level.

24. (new): The RNC of claim 21 wherein the event is the receipt of at least one measurement indicating a block error rate (BLER) associated with a wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) is too high for a predetermined period of time.

25. (new): The RNC of claim 21 wherein the RL is an uplink.

26. (new): The RNC of claim 21 wherein the RL is a downlink.

27. (new): A method of controlling the data bit rate of a radio link (RL) to maintain the quality of the RL, the method comprising:

(a) establishing a maximum data bit rate and a current data bit rate associated with the RL; and

(b) if the current data bit rate is less than the maximum data bit rate, and an event indicating that the quality of the RL exceeds a predetermined threshold is sensed, increasing the current data bit rate to a target data bit rate by adding at least one transport format combination (TFC) from a transport format combination

set (TFCS) associated with a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH) associated with the RL.

28. (new): A method of controlling the data bit rate of a radio link (RL) to maintain the quality of the RL, the method comprising:

(a) establishing a maximum data bit rate and a current data bit rate associated with the RL;

(b) initiating a waiting period; and

(c) if the current data bit rate is less than the maximum data bit rate, and the waiting period expires without sensing an event indicating a quality deficiency of the RL, increasing the current data bit rate to a target data bit rate by adding at least one transport format combination (TFC) from a transport format combination set (TFCS) associated with a specific coded composite transport channel (CCTrCH) associated with the RL.